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PATENT

Atty Docket No. 29250-000737/US

**IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

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Applicant: Nick J. MAZZARELLA Conf. No.: 8604  
Appl. No.: 09/465,198 Group: 2684 *Technology Center 2600*  
Filed: December 15, 1999 Examiner: T. Lei  
For: SELECTIVE BLOCKING IN A COMMUNICATION NETWORK

**AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

December 31, 2002

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed October 24, 2002, the following remarks are respectfully submitted in connection with the above-identified application.

**IN THE CLAIMS**

Please make the changes to the following claims:

1. (Twice Amended) A method for controlling messages in a communication system, comprising the steps of:

*B* receiving a message blocking request from a first network component at a second network component, the message blocking request identifying a third network component; and

preventing messages from being communicated from the third network component to the first network component if the second network